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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Wisconsin Army National Guard task force expected home from Afghanistan Tuesday

Nearly one full year after they shipped out to Afghanistan, 11 Wisconsin Army National Guard soldiers from Task Force Phoenix are expected back in Wisconsin Tuesday morning [Aug. 2]. The unit is made up of soldiers from the National Guard's Joint Force Headquarters in Madison.

The task force was mobilized in June 2004 and deployed to Afghanistan in August 2004 following six weeks of mobilization processing and training at Camp Atterbury, Ind.

The unit is expected to arrive at the Army Guard flight facility at the Dane County Regional Airport at about 10:30 a.m. Tuesday. Soldiers will be met by their families, senior National Guard officials and a military band.

While in Afghanistan, the task force soldiers were part of the Central Corps Assistance Group (CCAG), whose responsibilities included mentoring the Afghanistan National Army's Central Corps staff in military tactics, procedures and operations.

Following redeployment of Task Force Phoenix, the Wisconsin Guard will still have more than 2,100 soldiers and airmen on active duty. Of those, approximately 1,260 are currently deployed overseas. Another two battalions and about 1,020 soldiers will report on active duty later this month: 1st Battalion, 120th Field Artillery on Aug. 10, and 2nd Battalion, 128th Infantry on Aug. 17.

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NOTE TO EDITORS AND NEWS DIRECTORS: News media are welcome to cover the return of Task Force Phoenix Tuesday. The unit's flight is currently scheduled to arrive at the Wisconsin Army National Guard flight facility at the Dane County Regional Airport at 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, August 2. The flight facility is at 1954 Pearson Street in Madison.

News media organizations wishing to cover the aircraft arrival must call Lt. Col. Tim Donovan (608-242-3050 or Cell 608-516-1777) so arrangements can be made for access to the military installation. News media organizations will not be permitted on the flight facility grounds unless arrangements have been made in advance. Aircraft arrival time is subject to change. Call 608-516-1777 to confirm possible updates to arrival schedule.

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